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POEMATA MINORA,
OR,
MINOR
POEMS

BY
H. LOVECRAFT

VOL. II

ILLUSTRATED
EDITION

VOL I
FOR SALE
AT
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POEMATATA · MINORA · LOVECRAFTIS ·

- VEL -

THE
SHORTER VERSE
OF
H. LOVECRAFT.

VOL. II.

ILLUSTRATED

PROVIDENCE, R.I.
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FIRST EDITION
ILLUSTRATED

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DEDICATION

TO THE
GODS, HEROES, & IDEALS
OF THE
ANCIENTS

THIS VOLUME IS AFFECTIONATELY
DEDICATED
BY
A
GREAT ADMIRER

H. LOVECRAFT.

PREFACE

I submit to the publick these idle lines, hoping they will please.

They form a sort of series with my *Odyssey*, *Iliad*, *Æneid*, and the like.

THE AUTHOR

454 Angell St.
Prov. R.I.

Sep. 1902.

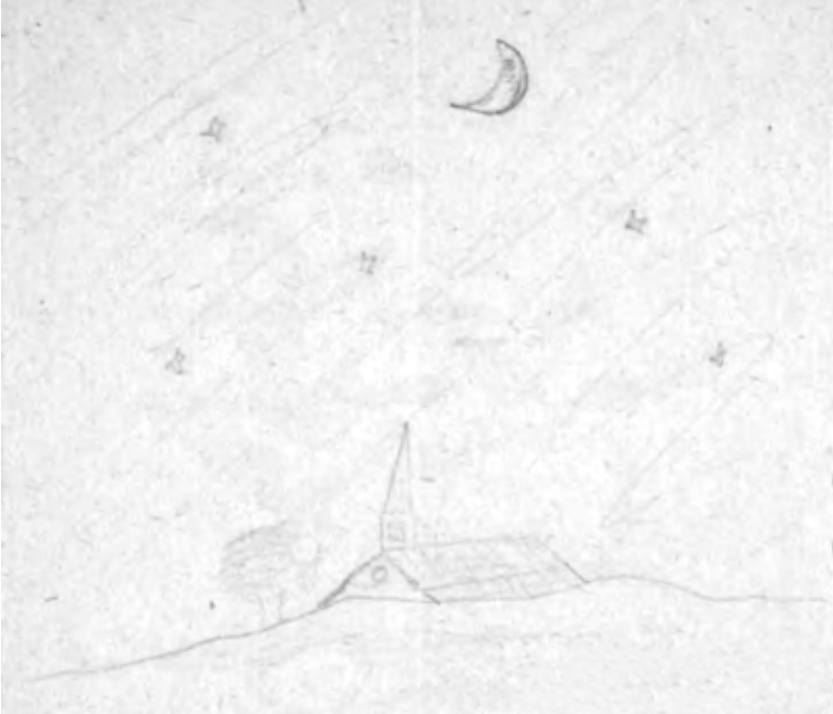
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ΣΕΛΗΝΗ OR ΑΡΤΕΜΙΣ



LVCE . PVLCHERRIMA.
RES . VVLGARES.
LVNA . FACIT.
NOBILES.

LVNA . CÆLI . REGINA

DIANA . DEA . VIRGO.

LOVECRAFT'S SHORTER POEMS.

ODE TO SELENE OR DIANA

Immortal Moon, in maiden splendour shine.
Dispense thy beams, divine *Latona's* child.
Thy silver rays all grosser things refine,
And hide harsh Truth in sweet illusion mild.

In thy soft light, the city of unrest
That stands so squalid in thy brother's glare
Throws off its habit, and in silence blest,
Becomes a vision, sparkling bright, and fair.

The modern world, with all its care & pain,
The smoky streets, the hideous clanging mills,
Fade 'neath thy beams, *Selene* and again
We dream like shepherds on *Chaldea's* hills.

Take heed, *Diana* of my humble plea
Convey me where my happiness can last
Draw me against the tide of time's rough sea
And let my spirit rest amid the past.

IOVE OR ZEVS

IMP. C. VALERIVS.
FLAV. CONSTANTINVS.
RELIGIONEM. CHRISTIANAM.
FALIEBAT. FIDEM.
IMPERI. ROMANI. ET.
IMP. THEODOSIVS.
CVLTVM. DEORVM
ANTIQVORVM.
PROHIBERAT.

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PAGANVS. POSTREMVS.

CVLTVS. DEORVM. ANTIQVORVM.

TO THE OLD PAGAN RELIGION.

Olympian Gods! how can I let ye go
And pin my faith to this new *Christian* creed?
Can I resign the deities I know
For him who on a cross for man did bleed?

How in my weakness can my hopes depend
On one lone God, though mighty be his pow'r?
Why can *Jove's* host no more assistance lend,
To soothe my pains, and cheer my troubled hour?

Are there no Dryads on these wooded mounts
O'er which I oft in desolation roam?
Are there no Naiads in these crystal founts?
Nor Nereids upon the Ocean foam?

Fast spreads the new; the older faith declines.
The name of *Christ* resounds upon the air.
But my wrack'd soul in solitude repines
And gives the Gods their last-receivèd pray'r.

ROMA. REGINA
ORBIS.
TERRARVM.
DECADEBAT.
CVM ROMANI.
SUCCEDEBANTVR.
A. GENTIBVS.
INFERIORIBVS.

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ROMA. CAPVT MVNDI. DELAPSA.

ON THE RUIN OF ROME

Low dost thou lie, O *Rome*, neath the foot of the *Teuton*.
Slaves are thy men, and bent to the will of thy conqueror;
Whither hath gone, great city, the race that gave law to all nations,
Subdu'd the east and the west, and made them bow down to thy
consuls.
Knew not defeat, but gave it to all who attack'd thee?

Dead! and replac'd by these wretches who cower in confusion
Dead! They who gave us this empire to guard and to live in
Rome, thou didst fall from thy pow'r with the proud race that made
thee,
And we, base *Italians*, enjoy'd what we could not have builded.

FAVNVS, OR PAN

PAN. HABEBAT >
CORNVA. BARBAM >
ET. ERAT.
SIMILIS. CAPRO
IN. CORPORIS.
PARTIBVS.
INFERIORIBVS.



PAN. DEVS. RVSTICVS.

TO PAN.

Seated in a woodland glen
By a shallow reedy stream
Once I fell a-musing, when
I was lull'd into a dream.

From the brook a shape arose
Half a man and half a goat,
Hoofs it had instead of toes
And a beard adorn'd its throat.

On a set of rustic reeds
Sweetly play'd this hybrid man
Naught car'd I for earthly needs,
For I knew that this was *Pan*.

Nymphs & Satyrs gather'd round
To enjoy the lively sound.

All too soon I woke in pain
And return'd to haunts of men
But in rural vales I'd fain
Live and hear *Pan's* pipes again.

HIC. HOMO. EST.
AVARISSIMVS. ET.
TVRPISSIMVS.
IVDAEVVS.

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שח

HOMO. QVIS. PECVNIAM. QVÆRIT.

ON THE VANITY OF HUMAN AMBITION

Apollo, chasing *Daphne*, gain'd his prize
But lo! she turn'd to wood before his eyes.
More modern swains at golden prizes aim,
And ever strive some worldly thing to claim.
Yet 'tis the same as in *Apollo's* case,
For, once attain'd, the purest gold seems base.
All that men seek's unworthy of the quest,
Yet seek they will, and never pause for rest.
True bliss, me thinks, a man can only find
In virtuous life, & cultivated mind.

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